

2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for
Virginia Polytechnic
Institute and State
University

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About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 1,000 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

NSLVE is a signature initiative of the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, and advocacy.

About the Data

The voter registration and voting rates in this report reflect the percentage of your institution's students who were eligible to vote and who voted in the 2014 and 2018 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 are adjusted by deducting an estimated number of students identified by each institution as non-resident aliens and reported to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For breakdowns by student characteristics in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool>.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions>.

Reviewing the Data

Use the following key to interpret the charts:

* = number of students is less than 10

n/a = no data was collected or calculated for this field.

What to do next?

- Review the data and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations>.
- Share the report widely and strategically by sharing it with institutional leaders, faculty across disciplines, student government leaders, and other student groups.
- Read and implement *Election Imperatives*, ten recommendations for providing your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, equity, and participation - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/electionimperatives>.
- Work with us. IDHE can help via virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions, coaching, and in-person workshops.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/>.

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE).

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at NSLVE@tufts.edu.

Warm regards,

IDHE Team



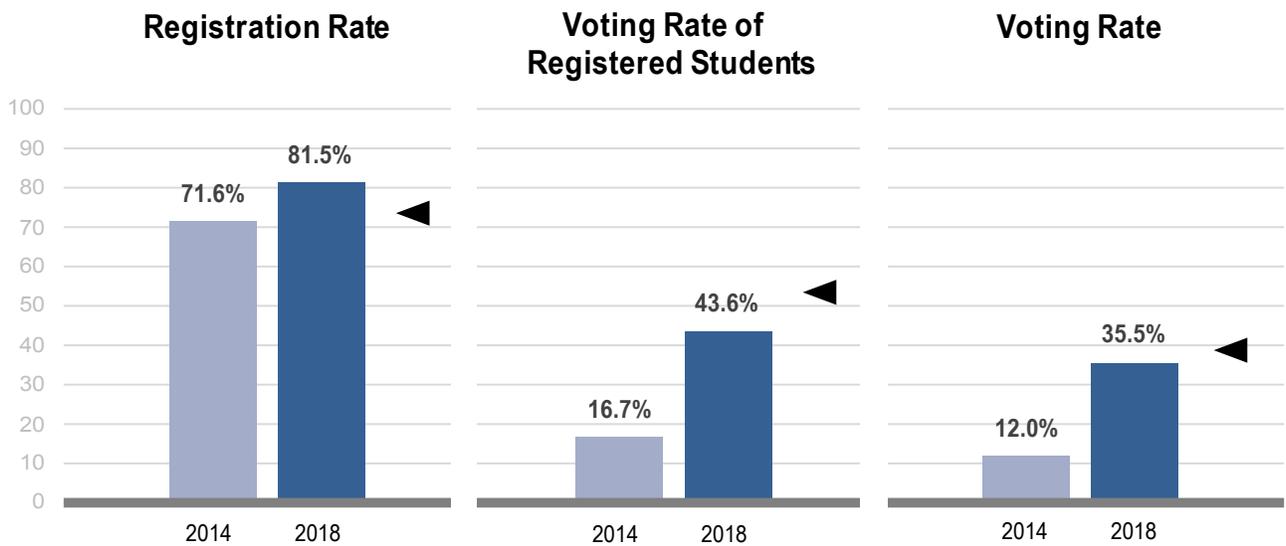
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Voting and Registration Rates

2018 Voting Rate
35.5%

CHANGE FROM 2014
+23.6

2018 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS
39.1%



◀ All Institutions, 2018

	2014	2018	Change
Total student enrollment	30,201	34,609	↑ 4,408
Age under 18/Unknown	(93)	(107)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(2,847)	(3,822)	
FERPA records blocked	(610)	(313)	
Total eligible voters	26,651	30,367	↑ 3,716
Number of students who registered	19,082	24,747	↑ 5,665
Number of students who voted	3,191	10,792	↑ 7,601
Registration rate	71.6%	81.5%	↑ 9.9
Voting rate of registered students	16.7%	43.6%	↑ 26.9
Voting rate	12.0%	35.5%	↑ 23.6
Difference from all institutions	-7.7	-3.6	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

19.7%

HIGH
54.0%

LOW
1.5%

2018 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

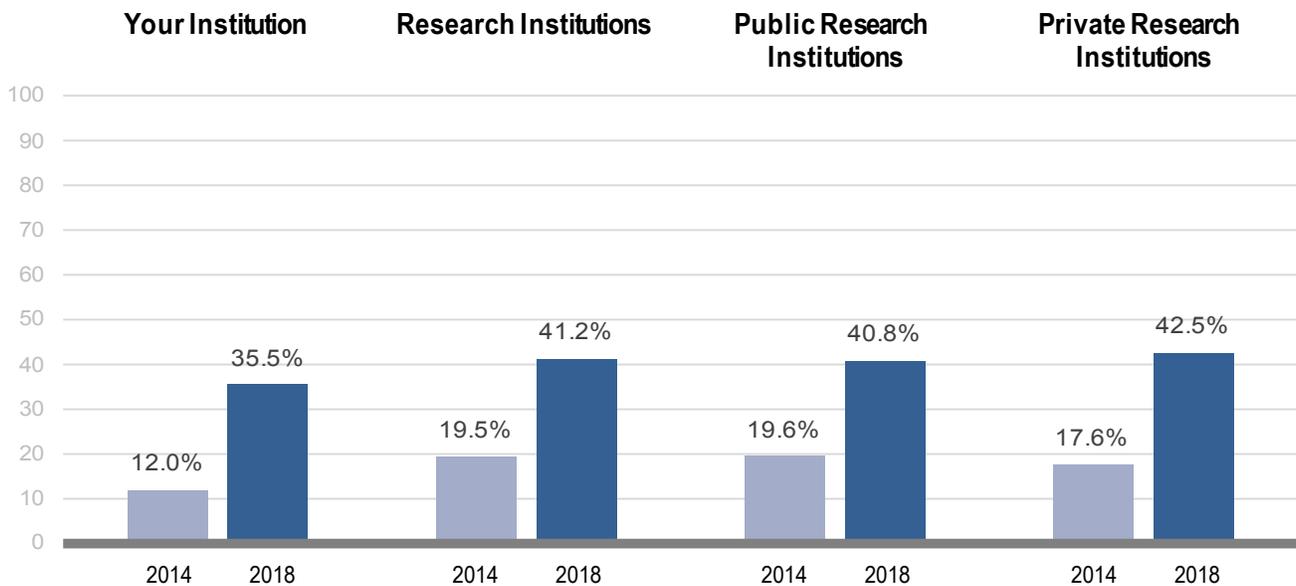
39.1%

HIGH
64.1%

LOW
11.5%

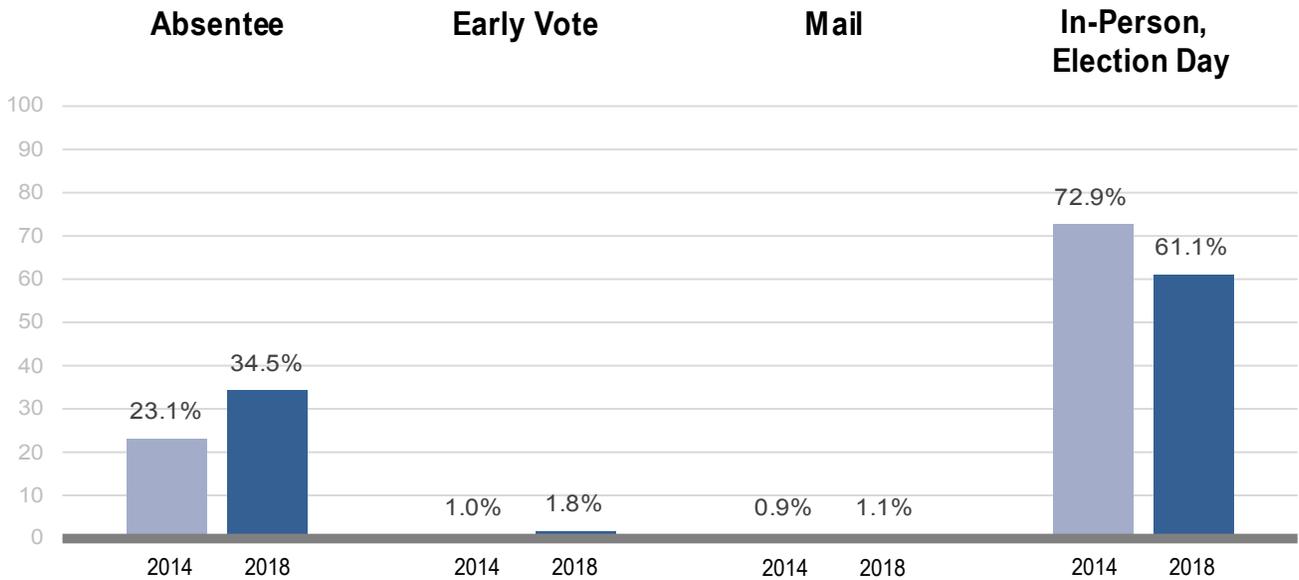
Difference from All Institutions **-7.7**

Difference from All Institutions **-3.6**



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Voting Method*

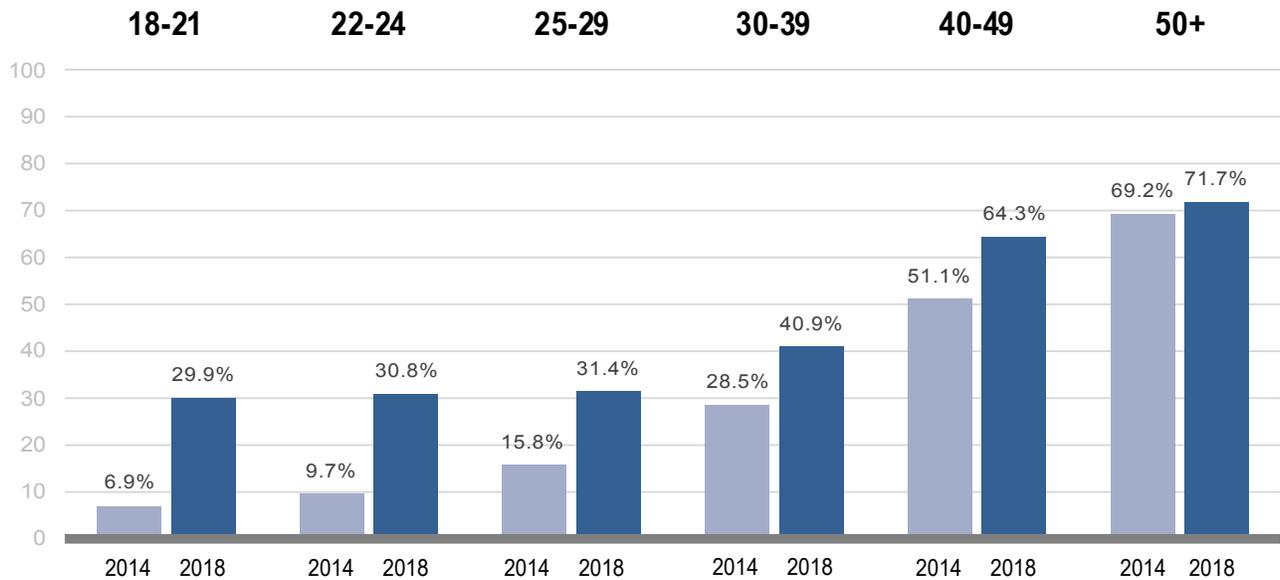


	2014		2018		Change	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate		
Absentee	738	23.1%	3,722	34.5%	↑	11.4
Early Vote	31	1.0%	196	1.8%	↑	0.9
Mail	28	0.9%	119	1.1%	↑	0.2
In-Person, Election Day	2,325	72.9%	6,598	61.1%	↓	-11.7
Unknown	69	2.2%	157	1.5%		
Total	3,191		10,792			

* Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high number of voting method "Unknown", it means that this information was not reported by local officials where your students voted.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Age Group*

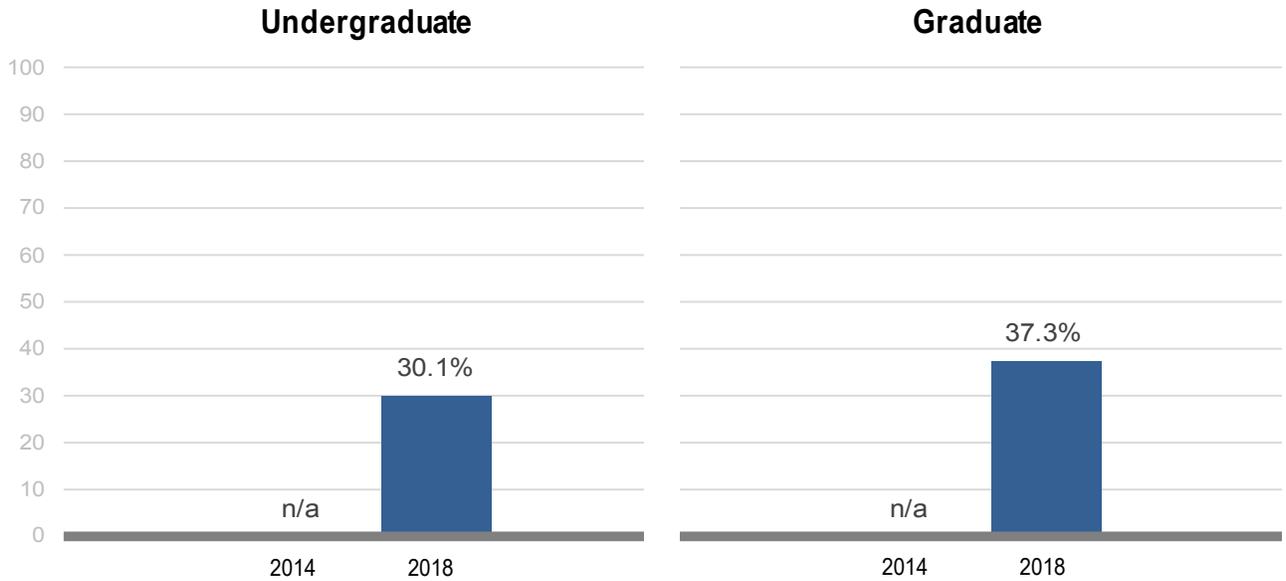


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	19,293	1,335	6.9%	23,384	6,999	29.9%	↑ 23.0
22-24	4,938	477	9.7%	5,394	1,661	30.8%	↑ 21.1
25-29	2,768	437	15.8%	2,921	917	31.4%	↑ 15.6
30-39	1,693	482	28.5%	1,732	709	40.9%	↑ 12.5
40-49	540	276	51.1%	507	326	64.3%	↑ 13.2
50+	266	184	69.2%	251	180	71.7%	↑ 2.5
Unknown	*			0			

* Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Education Level*

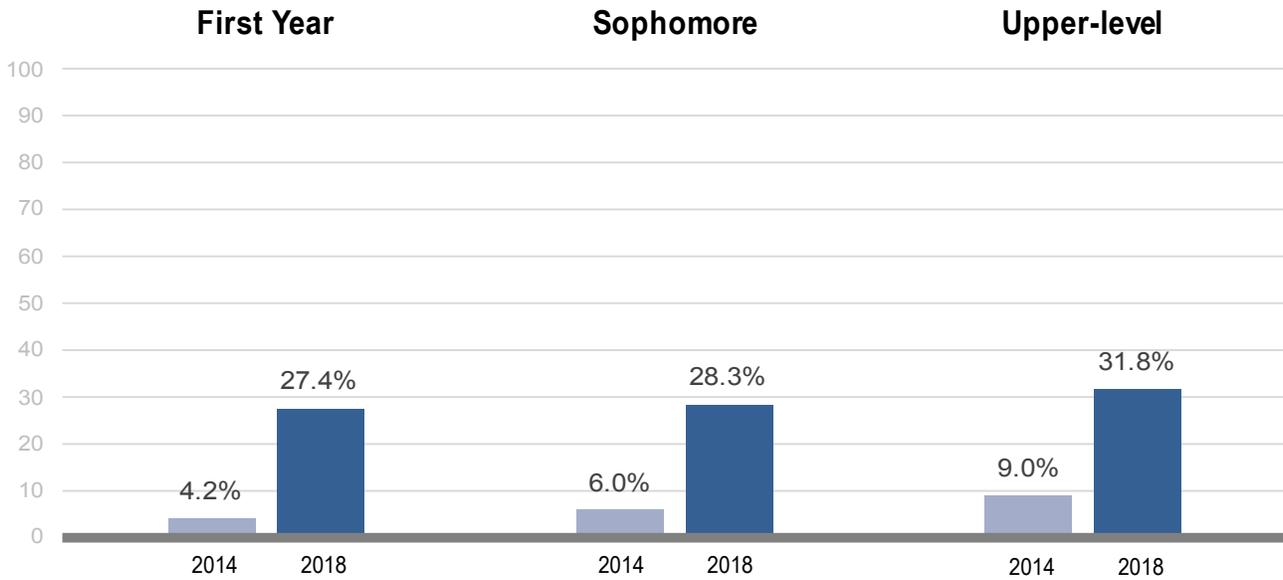


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	0	0	n/a	27,294	8,204	30.1%	n/a
Graduate	0	0	n/a	6,716	2,503	37.3%	n/a
Unknown	29,498			179			

* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Undergraduate Class Year*

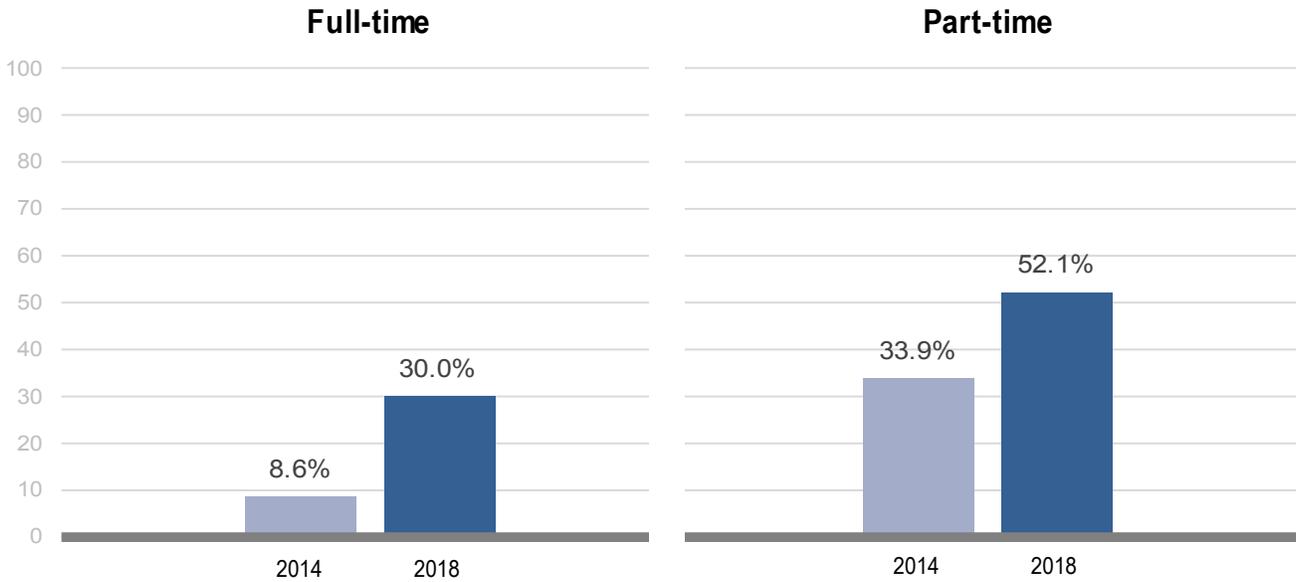


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	4,586	193	4.2%	5,265	1,443	27.4%	↑ 23.2
Sophomore	5,049	301	6.0%	6,638	1,879	28.3%	↑ 22.4
Upper-level	12,584	1,136	9.0%	15,255	4,853	31.8%	↑ 22.8

* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate students' class level. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Enrollment Status*



	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	26,895	2,308	8.6%	31,740	9,515	30.0%	↑ 21.4
Part-time	2,603	883	33.9%	2,449	1,277	52.1%	↑ 18.2
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

* Your students' data broken down by part-time and full-time students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Field of Study*

* Your students' data broken down by field of study. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. The green and red highlighted values below represent your campus's top three and bottom three voting rates by field of study.

	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Agriculture and Agriculture Operations	18	*	n/a	1,438	453	31.5%	n/a
Architecture	0	0	n/a	928	282	30.4%	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	42	*	n/a	2,839	938	33.0%	n/a
Business, Management, and Marketing	145	14	9.7%	4,724	1,375	29.1% ↑	19.5
Communication and Journalism	34	*	n/a	685	264	38.5%	n/a
Communications Technologies/Technicians	0	0	n/a	16	*	n/a	n/a
Computer and Information Sciences	51	*	n/a	1,601	543	33.9%	n/a
Education	33	16	48.5%	558	322	57.7% ↑	9.2
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	222	12	5.4%	7,014	1,744	24.9% ↑	19.5
English Language and Literature	11	0	n/a	265	123	46.4%	n/a
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	56	*	n/a	1,945	601	30.9%	n/a
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	*	*	n/a	99	52	52.5%	n/a
Health Professions	0	0	n/a	772	287	37.2%	n/a
History	11	*	n/a	182	83	45.6%	n/a
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	0	0	n/a	4,176	1,098	26.3%	n/a
Mathematics and Statistics	24	*	n/a	938	256	27.3%	n/a
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	*	*	n/a	51	38	74.5%	n/a
Natural Resources and Conservation	26	*	n/a	1,088	456	41.9%	n/a
Philosophy and Religious Studies	*	*	n/a	66	19	28.8%	n/a
Physical Sciences	20	*	n/a	1,009	303	30.0%	n/a
Psychology	28	*	n/a	577	209	36.2%	n/a
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	0	0	n/a	194	129	66.5%	n/a
Social Sciences	60	17	28.3%	2,173	869	40.0% ↑	11.7

Visual and Performing Arts	*	0	n/a	672	262	39.0%	n/a
Unknown	28,690	3,089	10.8%	179	81	45.3% ↑	34.5

Thank you for the work you do to improve your students' political learning and engagement. We hope that you find your NSLVE report useful. For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources, and to sign up for our newsletter visit: <https://idhe.tufts.edu>.

References: IDHE encourages report recipients to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it on the college or university's website. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2019). *2014 and 2018 report for _____ [name of institution]*. Medford, MA.

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Contact us:
 Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
 National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement
 Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155
NSLVE@tufts.edu | 617-627-0620

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